

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. – 3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) An optically readable medium as in claim ~~23~~ 25, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of NMP.

5. (Currently Amended) An optically readable medium as in claim ~~23~~ 25, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of DMF.

6. (Currently Amended) An optically readable medium as in claim ~~23~~ 25, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of acetone.

7. (Currently Amended) An optically readable medium as in claim ~~23~~ 25, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of HCl.

8. – 13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim ~~24~~ 26, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of NMP.

15. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim ~~24~~ 26, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of DMF.

16. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim ~~24~~ 26, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of acetone.

17. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim ~~24~~ 26, wherein said chemical compound is comprised of HCl.

18. – 24. (Canceled)

25. (New) A limited life optically readable medium comprising information encoding features, said information encoding features are readable by an optical beam from an optically readable medium reading device; a read inhibiting agent, said read inhibiting agent capable of undergoing a permanent and irreversible change upon exposure to a triggering agent to render unreadable at least a portion of said information encoding features by said optical beam; and

a package, said package enclosing completely said limited life optically readable medium;

wherein said package comprises a barrier material that allows said triggering agent to diffuse through said package at a predefined rate; and

wherein said package further comprises a getter material for neutralizing said triggering agent for a predetermined time, after said predetermined time said getter material no longer neutralizes said triggering agent and said read inhibiting agent undergoes its permanent and irreversible change while still enclosed in said package.

26. (New) A method for activating a read inhibiting agent of a limited life optically readable medium while said limited life optically readable medium is inside a package and before information encoded features stored on said limited life optically readable medium are read by an optical beam from an optically readable medium reading device, said method comprising

supplying a limited life optically readable medium with information encoded features and a reading inhibit agent in a package, said package encloses completely said limited life optically readable medium and wherein said reading inhibiting agent is capable of undergoing a permanent and irreversible change upon exposure to a triggering agent to render unreadable at least a portion of said information encoded features by said optical beam;

wherein said package comprises a barrier material that allows said triggering agent to diffuse through said package at a predefined rate; and

wherein said package further comprises a getter material for neutralizing said triggering agent for a predetermined time, after said predetermined time said getter material no longer neutralizes said triggering agent and said read inhibiting agent undergoes its permanent and irreversible change while still enclosed in said package.